

beaten with the United States flag and symbols of Nazism. You could see their valiant efforts, the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Police with our own Capitol Police. They stood their ground, being beat continuously by insurrectionists and, of course, domestic terrorists.

Madam Speaker, I offer today my deepest appreciation for them and sympathy for their brothers who were lost in the fight to preserve democracy. Yes, it was a fight because it was an attack on the United States Capitol. We owe them a great deal of gratitude and, as well, admiration.

Madam Speaker, I intend to introduce a resolution that will honor all those who stood their ground and protected this place, Members of Congress, and others, and were in the midst of a battle where so many were hurt. I express my sympathy and concern for those still hospitalized.

And I do say that it is important for us to say the simple words thank you. Thank you to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police, the Metropolitan Police Department, and, of course, our National Guard, and others.

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IN HONOR OF USCP BRIAN D. SICKNICK

(Mr. GUTHRIE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, this week, we had a hero lie in honor in the dome of the United States Capitol.

United States Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick gave his life to protect the U.S. Capitol, one of our greatest symbols of democracy. I had the opportunity to pay my respects to Officer Sicknick in the Capitol rotunda, which is safe and secure because of his sacrifice and also the bravery of his fellow Capitol Police officers and other law enforcement.

I am devastated by the loss of Officer Sicknick, and I want to provide my deepest condolences to Officer Sicknick's family and fellow officers.

I want each and every Capitol Police officer to know that I am grateful and appreciative of their work here that they do each and every day to protect democracy and all who work here, and they protect all of our constituents who visit.

VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

(Mrs. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Nevada's Third District.

The pandemic has ravaged our economy, especially in Nevada, where the travel and tourism industry is the bedrock of our economy.

Nevada is one of the hardest-hit States by this pandemic. Currently, we have one of the highest unemployment rates in the country at 9.2 percent, but we have an opportunity to put this pandemic behind us and to begin to rebuild our economy. That answer lies in vaccine distribution. We are doing everything we can to get vaccines to those who are eligible, but with limited resources, we are not able to get them out quickly enough.

This week, we were able to work with Clark County Commissioner Michael Naft to establish a temporary vaccine site for the residents of Laughlin, a rural community on the border of Arizona, California, and Nevada. Before this site was established, these Nevadans had no vaccination options within an hour's drive of their community.

This pandemic needs to be treated like the crisis it is. We need to act swiftly and get States more funding for distribution. I am urging my colleagues: we must act quickly. We cannot let partisan games get in the way.

RECOGNIZING LAKELAND FIRE CHIEF DOUG RILEY

(Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lakeland Fire Chief Doug Riley for being named the 2020 Florida Fire Chief of the Year by the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association.

Riley was appointed as fire chief in December 2017. He has served more than 30 years with the Lakeland Fire Department, holding just about every position there during his tenure.

I was privileged to serve alongside Chief Riley as a Lakeland city commissioner and as a fellow rotarian. I have seen firsthand his effort to build better relationships with employees, staff, and the community. Doug Riley continues to go above and beyond to strengthen the fire department and its employees.

On behalf of the 15th District of Florida, congratulations to Chief Doug Riley for earning this distinguished honor. The Lakeland community thanks the chief for his efforts to protect and serve us every day.

Well done, Chief.

COVID-19 RELIEF

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the bipartisan Restoring Communities Left Behind Act.

This legislation establishes a \$5 billion neighborhood infrastructure stimulus program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development to help communities face down the dire COVID-19 economic crisis.

I am grateful for the cooperation and leadership of Michigan Congresswoman

RASHIDA TLAIB for leading this bill with me, and also for Chairwoman MAXINE WATERS for encouraging our efforts.

In addition to COVID-19, Americans in rural and urban areas are still suffering from the effects of the 2008 Great Recession, decades of job washout, and redlining. Wall Street's malfeasance resulted in African Americans alone losing nearly half of their accumulated wealth since the founding of the Republic.

Nothing is more important for wealth creation than owning a home. This bill will provide a lifeline for families to restore financial security through homeownership.

The bill is a critical job-creation program. By investing in neighborhood infrastructure, we are investing in skills training and creating good paying jobs.

Congress must act now to provide stimulus for neighborhoods to recover so they emerge more resilient. I look forward to working to include this bill in a larger COVID relief and recovery package. I urge my colleagues to support this important housing recovery legislation.

HONORING TOMMY LEE EXLEY, SR.

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Tommy Lee Exley, Sr., who passed away on January 16.

Tommy was a man of integrity who dedicated his life to serving others. In addition to serving his country in the National Guard, he was very active in community service. Tommy served on the Effingham Industrial Development Board and the Effingham Hospital Board for a number of years.

He was also an active member of the Lions Club, The American Legion, Sunrise Rotary Club. He was even president of the Springfield Jaycees, which is an organization that identifies community needs and provides solutions by planning and facilitating service projects and funding.

Tommy graduated from the University of Georgia and was an avid Georgia Bulldogs fan.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful family, including the love of his life, Bebe, as well as his friends, during this most difficult time.

INSURRECTION IN THE CAPITOL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that